

Investing in our future by looking to the past

Subject: Investing in our future by looking to the past
From: Mitch O'Farrell <councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org>
Date: 04/15/2016 10:31 PM
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 [Mitch O'Farrell, Councilmember, 13th District](#)

Friend --

I have some exciting news! I introduced a motion this morning that will unlock close to \$1.9 million dollars in funds to renovate Residence A: the dilapidated and shuttered guesthouse for the historic Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Hollyhock House located in Barnsdall Park.

I am collaborating with Project Restore on this project, and my policy advisor Christine Peters identified the funds through Community Redevelopment Excess Bond proceeds available to the Council office. In addition to introducing a motion to unlock the funding, I am also directing staff to work with Project Restore to identify the balance of the funds to complete the Project. The total cost of the restoration project is estimated at \$3.2 million.

Just over a year ago, we celebrated the grand re-opening of Hollyhock House which brought thousands of Angelenos to Barnsdall Park to imagine what it was like to live in Los Angeles in the 1920s. The event inspired my commitment to find a way to restore Residence A to its original historic splendor, and finally re-open the second publicly-accessible Frank Lloyd Wright home in the area.

The scope of the work on the 2600-square foot residence will include seismic testing, inspection, analysis, repair, and strengthening; upgrade of roof and drainage systems; restoration of doors, windows, flooring; and the restoration of major areas, including Living Room, Foyer, Dining Room, and Kitchen. Residence A closed its doors to the public in 2000, when the entire park closed for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's tunneling of the Red Line subway.

We have a team dedicated to the success of Barnsdall Park, including our Department of Cultural Affairs General Manager Danielle Brazell, Hollyhock House curator Jeffrey Herr, Recreation and Parks General Manager Mike Shull, Tony Royster from General Services Department, Kevin Jew and Hsiao-Ling Ting from the Bureau of Engineering, Isabelle Lutterodt from the Municipal Gallery, and Mark Edwards and his board at the Barnsdall Art Park Foundation. There are many more, including our muse Aline Barnsdall, and for her legacy of arts and culture she bestowed on the City of Angels.

It really takes a village, and together we are restoring a space that perhaps may inspire creativity in all of us! [Be sure to share the news using this link.](#)

Warm regards,

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Mitch O'Farrell

COMING UP

SAT 4/16 [PUBLIC FORUM: UPDATING THE CITY'S ZONING CODE](#)

